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MAP Commission Announces Public Hearings

Governor Mark Sanford's Commission on Management, Accountability and Performance has been hard at work this summer studying every corner of state government to find ways to save money and improve efficiency.

Now, the citizens of South Carolina will have a unique opportunity to give the commission their suggestions for improving government.

The MAP Commission will hold five public hearings around the state this month to solicit citizen input about how to make government more efficient, more accountable and more consumer-friendly.

Hearings will be held at the following locations:

Tuesday, August 19	5-7 p.m.	Aiken Technical College Amphitheatre
Thursday, August 21	4-6 p.m.	Greenville Technical College Verne Smith Building
Monday, August 25	5-7 p.m.	York Technical College Barnes Theatre
Tuesday, August 26	5-7 p.m.	Francis Marion University Media Center Auditorium
Wednesday, August 27	5-7 p.m.	Midlands Technical College Airport Campus, Academic Center
Thursday, August 28	5-7 p.m.	Trident Technical College Student Center, Building 410

Citizens will be able to address the commission for up to two minutes. Written suggestions and documents will also be accepted.

"The Commission is eager to meet face to face with the citizens of South Carolina to hear their ideas about how we can make government more responsive to their needs," said MAP Commission Chairman Ken Wingate. "Our committee of business leaders has been hearing from government officials in Columbia and now we would like to hear from the public."

Created by executive order and announced on June 10, the MAP Commission is charged with studying the way government does business in an effort to save taxpayer money, increase accountability, improve service, consolidate functions, return jobs to the private sector and help make South Carolina more competitive in a global economy. Modeled after the Grace Commission created in the 1980's by former President Ronald Reagan, the MAP Commission and its committees are working toward issuing a final report in the fall.

Citizens who cannot attend a meeting can also make their voice heard by answering the MAP Commission's online survey. The survey can be found at www.mapcommission.sc.gov. A separate survey of state employees is also available.